

**Before**

**UTTARAKHAND ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**In the matter of:**

Non-compliance by UPCL in the matter of directives given to it by the Commission on implementation of Scheme of Prepaid Metering vide Tariff Order dated April 11, 2012 for FY 2012-13.

**AND**

**In the matter of:**

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd.

... Respondent

**CORAM**

**Shri C.S. Sharma      Member-Chairman**

**Shri K.P. Singh      Member**

**Date of Hearing: May 15, 2014**

**Date of Order: May 16, 2014**

The Commission in its earlier Order dated 05.05.2014 had decided to adjourn the earlier hearing held on 05.05.2014 due to non-appearance of MD, UPCL personally in the matter. While adjourning the hearing, the Commission had held the following in the aforesaid Order:

*"This hearing was scheduled to hear the MD, UPCL as to why appropriate penalty be not imposed on him for his failure to abide by the commitment given by him. MD, UPCL did not present himself nor sought any postponement of hearing.*

*The Commission decides to afford opportunity to MD, UPCL to explain as to why punitive action be not taken against him. Accordingly, this hearing is adjourned to 15.05.2014 at 3.30 PM. If MD, UPCL fails to present himself in this adjourned hearing, it would be presumed that he has nothing to say in his defence and, accordingly, matter would be decided Ex-parte."*

Complying with the above directions of the Commission, MD, UPCL now appeared before the Commission, on the scheduled hearing and also submitted his written statement in

the matter with regard to the status of implementation of prepaid metering scheme. The Commission while expressing its anguish on the repeated non-compliance by UPCL in implementation of prepaid metering scheme, directions on which had been issued almost 2 years back, i.e. on 11.04.2012 in the Tariff Order for FY 2012-13, also conveyed dissatisfaction with the lack of proper regulatory interface in UPCL. It was mentioned that plethora of notices u/s 142 were a clear evidence of casualness on part of licensee. MD, UPCL submitted that as mentioned in his written statement there were difficulties in procurement of prepaid meters as these are not being widely used in the country. He mentioned that now the issues have been sorted out and that the licensee would be ready to implement this in near future in any case by July, 2014, on the issue of regulatory interface. MD, UPCL submitted that he has recently conceptualised a Regulatory Cell to ensure regulatory compliance which would soon become functional and assured the Commission of better, effective & efficient compliance of Orders/directions & Regulations of the Commission in future.

The Commission directs MD, UPCL to submit an Action plan for implementation of prepaid metering scheme within 10 days from the date of this Order. Besides this matter, the Commission also directs MD, UPCL to submit the measures taken by the licensee for improving regulatory interface/compliance within 10 days of the date of this Order.

**(K.P. Singh)**  
Member

**(C.S. Sharma)**  
Member-Chairman